AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 283

Introduced by Assembly Member Jeffries

February 9, 2007

An act to repeal and add Sections 14825 and 14827 of, and to add Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 14865) to Part 4 of Division 12 of, the Health and Safety Code, relating to fire companies.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 283, as amended, Jeffries. Fire companies: certificate of organization.

Existing law permits a fire company in an unincorporated town to be organized by recording with the county recorder a certificate signed by the presiding officer and by the secretary of the fire company. That law requires the certificate to include specified information, including, but not limited to, the date of organization, the name of the fire company, the names of the officers of the fire company, and the roll of active and honorary members of the fire company. That law requires the fire company to renew and record the certificate with the county recorder every 6 months.

This bill would instead permit a fire company in an unincorporated town to be organized by filing a certificate with the Office of Emergency Services and would require the fire company to renew the certificate annually with the Office of Emergency Services that office, as specified. It would require that, if a fire company in an unincorporated town disbands, the fire company file a certificate of termination with the office. The bill would require the Office of Emergency Services office to develop a form interactive forms for the certificate and make that

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form certificates of organization and termination, to make those forms accessible on—the its official Web site—of the Office of Emergency Services, and to develop policies and procedures for the electronic or paper filing of the form. The bill would require the office to notify the appropriate Fire and Rescue Operational Area Coordinator upon organization or termination of a fire company under these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- SECTION 1. Section 14825 of the Health and Safety Code is repealed.
- 3 SEC. 2. Section 14825 is added to the Health and Safety Code, 4 to read:
- 14825. (a) A fire company in an unincorporated town may be organized by filing a certificate of organization with the Office of Emergency Services. The certificate shall be signed by the presiding officer or chief of the fire company, and by the secretary of the fire company.
- 10 (b) The Office of Emergency Services shall develop—a an interactive form for the certificate that contains the information described in Section—14826, and make that form accessible from the official Web site of the Office of Emergency Services. 14826. The office shall make that form accessible from its official Web site and shall develop policies and procedures for the electronic or paper filing of the form.
- 17 (c) Upon the organization of a fire company pursuant to 18 subdivision (a), the Office of Emergency Services shall notify the 19 Fire and Rescue Operational Area Coordinator in the operational 20 area where the fire company is located.
- SEC. 3. Section 14827 of the Health and Safety Code is repealed.
- SEC. 4. Section 14827 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:
- 14827. The certificate described in Section 14826 shall be renewed with the Office of Emergency Services on or before January 15, 2008, and every January 15th thereafter.
- 28 SEC. 5. Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 14865) is added 29 to Part 4 of Division 12 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

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CHAPTER 4. TERMINATION

- 14865. (a) If a fire company in an unincorporated town disbands, the fire company shall file a certificate of termination with the Office of Emergency Services. The certificate shall be signed by the presiding officer or chief of the fire company.
- (b) The Office of Emergency Services shall develop an interactive form for the certificate of termination that contains spaces for recording the name of the fire company and the date of termination. The office shall make that form accessible from its official Web site and shall develop policies and procedures for the electronic or paper filing of the form.
- (c) Upon the termination of a fire company pursuant to subdivision (a), the Office of Emergency Services shall notify the Fire and Rescue Operational Area Coordinator in the operational area where the fire company was located.